

The mission of the Waynesville Public Art Commission is to engage the community and enrich public spaces through original art that celebrates Waynesville's unique historic, cultural, natural and human resources.

SPECIAL MEETING  
TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE  
PUBLIC ART COMMISSION  
9:00 AM, SATURDAY APRIL 25, 2009  
TOWN HALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: MIKE GILLESPIE, MARILYN SULLIVAN, CHRIS SYLVESTER, PHILAN MEDFORD, KAAREN STONER, KAREN KAUFMAN, STARR HOGAN, MIEKO THOMSON, DAVID BLEVINS

ALSO PRESENT: The Advisory Panel: Karen Babcock, Courtney Boessel, Myra Bottoms, Jackee Brown, Robert Busko, Chuck Dickson, Ann Eavenson, Libba Feichter, Henry Foy, Doug Garrett, Jan Griffin, Bill Hollingsed, Ron Huelster, Jon Jicha, Rolf Kaufman, Ed Kelley, Kevin Kirkpatrick, Sarah Kucharski, Alison Melnikova, Buffy Messer, Leroy Roberson, Jackie Stephens, Peter Sterling, Lorna Sterling, Noretta Taylor, Carolyn Taylor, David Teague, Kay Waldrop, Nicole Wilhelm

Mike Gillespie opened the meeting by thanking members of the advisory panel for taking the time to participate in the presentations today and by introducing members of the Waynesville Public Art Commission. A packet had been previously sent to all panel members explaining the process, the theme and information about the artists. Mike mentioned this again, talked of the Folkmoot theme and reviewed the site plan. The agenda calls for presentations by the three artists with breaks in between.

The first artist to present was Grace Cathey. Mike introduced Grace and she started with a brief slide presentation of previous works and where they are located today. Grace's piece was in the shape of a globe made up of dancing figures. Grace talked about a universal rhythm, harmony, diversity and unity conveyed by the overlapping figures. Different shapes represent different cultures. Unity is the sphere shape. She explained that where the piece would be set it could be seen from both streets as well as from the building and would reflect off the glass in the building. Large openings in the sphere allowed you to see through to the dancers on the other side.

Grace then answered questions about the materials that would be used, gauge of steel (14 gauge for the piece, 11 gauge for the base) and paint. She has elected to use automotive paint which she believes provides the most long lasting finish. She said this coating would last at

least 10 years but that if some areas receiving more sunlight faded, repainting would be relatively easy to accomplish. It was also noted that landscaping of the area would need to be coordinated with whichever artist had the final commission.

Following Grace's presentation the panel took a short break that included refreshments and a "field trip" across the street to inspect the site first hand.

Harry McDaniel was the second artist to present. Harry is from Asheville and he also began his presentation with slides of previous works. His concept for the Folkmoot piece consisted of 6 individual, curved shapes in 6 different colors. The shapes would rise from ground level to between 3 and 6 feet. He described the shapes as offering a sense of dance, movement, tradition, rhythm and color. He planned to use 16 gauge steel to create the designs. He primarily researched costumes in determining his design and in each piece there will be cut outs in the designs he developed from this research ~ reflecting the various cultures. He said the pieces would have a baked-on powder coat which shouldn't require maintenance beyond pressure washing if needed. He answered questions about colors and how this would work with the stone of the building as background. He thought the powder coating would last at least 15 years before fading and will be less glossy than other possible alternatives. There were other questions about the steel that would be used.

Following the second break, Wayne Trapp was our third artist to present. He went through an extensive slide presentation of previous works before "unveiling" his model for the proposed Folkmoot piece. The sculpture he is proposing is 16 feet tall which he felt was the right proportion for the property. If the piece is too small, it becomes a negative element. If it is too large it competes. The major element of the sculpture is a flowing form of ribbon powder coated steel in dark red. Three large "flag poles" which act as balance to the main piece will also have stainless steel "flags". He suggested that the design of the flags could be a community project ~ has school children make them up. The flags would move in the wind affording a kinetic property to the sculpture and it would also have a portion of the "ribbon base" extending over the sidewalk utilizing air space. He was asked several questions concerning the use of two metals and their reaction to one another. He conferred with the "metallurgist" while his assistant brought the model around answering other questions about the concept, materials, etc.

Following these presentations, panel members were invited to stay for a discussion session. Several elements were mentioned as being criteria for a Folkmoot piece: music, costumes, dance, unity, harmony, "meeting of the people".

It was also pointed out that the Cathey piece could be allowed to go to a rust finish if that were determined in future to be desirable.

There were many comments about having children involved with the flag design of the Trapp proposal – possibly in conjunction with a fund raiser. It was agreed that as a back-to-school project this would work with the timing of construction and placement of the piece.

It was agreed that tallness was important. Some were concerned about the size of Cathey and McDaniel's pieces.

There was also discussion of how the community would respond to the Trapp piece as it is so very bold and abstract. It was pointed out that art that has staying power causes questions. You want a piece that asks you to return to see something different in every visit.

Other elements of the various pieces were talked about including universal abstract, intelligent abstract and play.

Meeting adjourned at 12:45 PM.

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Mike Gillespie, Chairman

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Marilyn Sullivan, Secretary